

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC INVESTIGATION OF THE GAS)	
COSTS OF JOHNSON COUNTY GAS COMPANY,)	CASE NO.
INC. AND HALL, STEPHENS AND HALL GAS)	2020-00122
COMPANY PURSUANT TO KRS 278.2207, AND)	
KRS 278.274)	

ORDER

On November 12, 2020, the Commission granted Johnson County Gas Company (Johnson County) and Hall, Stephens, and Hall Gas Company's (Hall) joint motion to hold this case in abeyance until December 31, 2020, pending an acquisition of Johnson County.¹ Due to the importance of the underlying issues regarding possible overcollection of rates from customers and because the acquisition has not been completed, the Commission finds that the abeyance should be lifted and an amended procedural schedule established.

On April 14, 2020, the Commission initiated this proceeding to investigate the reasonableness of the gas cost recovery component of Johnson County's rates and the rates charged by Hall between April 1, 2013, and September 3, 2019. In accordance with a procedural schedule established on June 4, 2020, and amended on June 30, 2020, Johnson County and Hall were to respond to two rounds of discovery, and a formal

¹ Johnson County is wholly owned by Bud Rife. Hall is a joint venture; Mr. Rife is a minority owner and manager of Hall. The pending acquisition is for Johnson County and not Hall. See Case No. 2020-00396, *Electronic Application of Navitas KY NG, Johnson County Gas Company, and B&H Gas System for Approval of Acquisition, Transfer of Ownership, and Control of Natural Gas Utility Systems* (filed Dec. 28, 2020).

hearing was to be held. Johnson County and Hall responded to the first round of discovery on August 26, 2020. On September 14, 2020, Commission Staff issued a second round of discovery. Johnson County and Hall have not yet responded to this discovery because, on October 8, 2020, they received an extension of time to respond to the data requests, and then on November 12, 2020, their request for an abeyance was granted.

The Commission concludes that Johnson County and Hall should file their responses to the data requests issued on September 14, 2020, in accordance with the attached procedural schedule. A hearing in this matter will be scheduled by a separate Order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. The abeyance granted on November 12, 2020, is lifted, and this case shall proceed in accordance with the procedural schedule attached as an Appendix to this Order.

2. The amended procedural schedule issued on June 30, 2020, is stricken and replaced with the procedural schedule attached as an Appendix to this Order.

By the Commission



ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda C. Bidwell". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Executive Director

Case No. 2020-00122

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2020-00122 DATED JAN 22 2021

Johnson County and Hall shall file responses to supplemental requests
for information issued on September 14, 2020, no later than..... 2/17/2021

Last day for Johnson County and Hall to publish notice of hearing..... To be scheduled

Public Hearing to be held in the Richard Raff Hearing Room
at the offices of the Public Service Commission at
211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, for the
purpose of cross-examination of witnesses of
Johnson County and Hall To be scheduled

Post-Hearing Briefs, if any..... To be scheduled

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